PLEASE ENTER KJ 3/4/05

CLEAN SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION PER 37 C.F.R. §1.121(B)(3)

DIGITAL CAMERA AND METHOD OF IMPROVING IMAGE QUALITY IN LIVE VIEW MODE

RELATED APPLICATIONS

5

This application is related to U.S. patent application Serial No.: 09/661,764 entitled "Digital Camera and Method of Improving Image Quality in Live View Mode", filed on September 14, 2000.

FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to cameras, and more particularly, to a digital camera having an automatic adjustment feature for improving image quality in a live view mode of operation.

15

20

25

30

10

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In general, analog cameras must give feedback to a user of what area of a scene to be photographed will be captured when a picture is taken. This has traditionally been accomplished using a built-in device called an optical viewfinder or an optical window that enables the user to visualize the scene and see approximately what area of the scene that will be captured by the camera lens system.

In modern day digital cameras, the viewing of the scene that will be captured is accomplished with either an optical viewfinder or a liquid crystal display (LCD) unit in combination with an optical viewfinder. The LCD in this instance displays the scene on a viewing screen for preview by a user. The viewing of such a scene prior to the image being captured and stored on a removable memory device is called a preview or live view mode of operation. When the image has been captured and stored on such a removable memory device, the LCD unit may also be utilized to view the stored digital image in what is called a post view or review mode of operation where the captured image is retrieved from the removable memory device and displayed on the LCD.